

1 H.551

2 Introduced by Representatives Townsend of South Burlington and Devereux  
3 of Mount Holly

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: General provisions; State flags; Green Mountain Boys Flag; State  
7 House display

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to direct that the  
9 Green Mountain Boys Flag shall be flown on the 15th day of January each year  
10 under the U.S. Flag at the State House in Montpelier in observance of  
11 Vermont's independence.

12 An act relating to flying the Green Mountain Boys Flag at the State House

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

15 On January 15, 1777, delegates from 28 towns that supported the military  
16 and political leadership of Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys  
17 convened in the town of Westminster and declared the independence of the  
18 territory, known as the New Hampshire Grants, from the British colony of  
19 Quebec and the American states of New Hampshire and New York, adopting  
20 the name New Connecticut (Vermont). The flying of the Green Mountain

1 Boys Flag at the State House in Montpelier, on the 15th day of January each  
2 year, would commemorate this important event in the history of Vermont.

3 Sec. 2. 1 V.S.A. § 496 is amended to read:

4 § 496. STATE FLAGS, PURCHASE, DISTRIBUTION

5 (a) The Secretary of State shall obtain, through the Department of  
6 Buildings and General Services, ~~obtain State Flags and a copy of the~~  
7 ~~Bennington Battle Flag, so-called. He or she~~ The Secretary may, ~~in his or her~~  
8 ~~discretion and on such terms as that~~ he or she finds appropriate, distribute ~~said~~  
9 these State Flags to other states; to State officials, departments, and agencies;  
10 and to ~~such~~ other persons as ~~he or she~~ the Secretary may determine should  
11 ~~have receive~~ them in the interest of the State. ~~He or she shall cause the~~  
12 ~~Bennington Battle Flag to be delivered to the custody of the Sergeant at Arms,~~  
13 ~~to be flown at the State House in Montpelier, under the United States Flag, on~~  
14 ~~the 15th, 16th, and 17th days of August in each year to commemorate the~~  
15 ~~Battle of Bennington.~~

16 (b) ~~The Secretary of State shall furnish to the Division for Historic~~  
17 ~~Preservation, under this section, one Vermont State Flag and one Bennington~~  
18 ~~Battle Flag to be flown at the Bennington Battle Monument Area.~~

1 Sec. 3. 1 V.S.A. § 496a is added to read:

2 § 496a. BENNINGTON BATTLE FLAG

3 The Secretary of State shall obtain, through the Department of Buildings  
4 and General Services, two copies of the Bennington Battle Flag, one for  
5 delivery to the Sergeant at Arms to be flown at the State House in Montpelier,  
6 under the U.S. Flag, on the 15th, 16th, and 17th days of August each year to  
7 commemorate the Battle of Bennington, and a second for delivery to the  
8 Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, along with one Vermont State  
9 Flag, to be flown at the Bennington Battle Monument Area.

10 Sec. 4. 1 V.S.A. § 496b is added to read:

11 § 496b. GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS FLAG

12 The Secretary of State shall obtain, through the Department of Buildings  
13 and General Services, a copy of the Green Mountain Boys Flag for delivery to  
14 the Sergeant at Arms to be flown at the State House in Montpelier, under the  
15 U.S. Flag, on the 15th day of January each year to commemorate Vermont's  
16 independence.

17 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.